ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Stanley G. Jewett, Jr., supplied encouragement and identified or confirmed the identifications of representatives of all species found in this study.

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SCIENTIFIC NOTE

Trichophaga tapetzella Linnaeus in the Galapagos Islands (Lepidoptera: Tineidae).¹—Early in 1973 Dr. Pierce Brodkorb (Department of Zoology, University of Florida) found exuviae of a lepidopterous larva on the skin of a dead Galapagos flightless cormorant, *Nannopterum harrisi* (Rothschild), at Punta Espinosa, Fernandina Island. On March 23, 1973 an adult carpet moth, *Trichophaga tapetzella* Linnaeus, emerged. The specimen is deposited in the Florida State Collection of Arthropods, Division of Plant Industry, Gainesville.

Although cosmopolitan, *Trichophaga tapetzella* has not previously been recorded from the Galapagos Islands (Linsley and Usinger, 1966, Proc. Calif. Acad. Sci. 33(7): 113-196). The moth was reared in 1966 at Barrington Island (DeVries— Calif. Acad. Sci.) but this was not reported. Host preferences of the carpet moth when not an economic pest include general detritus and various kinds of animal matter.

Dr. Donald R. Davis (Department of Entomology, U.S. National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C.) kindly confirmed my determination of the adult moth from Fernandina Island and also told of captures of moths reared from owl pellets on the Galapagos Islands as related in correspondence to him, which could also be *Trichophaga tapetzella*.

Probably an accidental introduction by man, *Trichophaga tapetzella* may be firmly established in the Galapagos Islands by indication of the three reports of its occurrence there since 1966 noted herein.— J. B. HEPPNER, *Department of Entomology and Nematology*, *University of Florida*, *Gainesville*, *Florida* 32611.

¹ Florida Agricultural Experiment Station Journal Series No. 5398.